

To the Members of the California Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1857 without my signature.

My administration is committed to ensuring that a fully qualified and effective teacher is teaching in every classroom. In addition to the traditional teacher preparation programs, I support alternative credentialing routes, such as the district internship program, which are vital to ensuring the supply of teachers is sufficient to meet the state's demand.

While I applaud the bill's goal of removing barriers to individuals pursuing credentials through the district intern Early Completion option, this bill would make this option more cumbersome on those seeking credentials in English and mathematics. This is counter to my efforts to streamline the credentialing process.

Furthermore, this bill is premature. The 2006 Budget Act provides \$1.0 million for a comprehensive examination of the state's intern and induction programs. Until this evaluation is complete and the recommendations have been reviewed, it is premature to make changes to the existing intern program.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger